

Docket No. 87427.1040 (formerly 114286.1040)  
Customer No. 30734

PATENT

Examiner Ho,

Further to our phone conversation of June 13, 2003, below are my proposed claim amendments.

Please call me to discuss the proposed amendments.

Thank you.

P. Alan Larson

Reg. No. 53,184

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for latching a door against a frame, comprising:
  - a door pin extending from the door;
  - a handle lever rotatably mounted to the door and having a handle pin extending therefrom;
  - and
  - a latch bar mounted for reciprocating travel relative to the frame, the latch bar completely defining a first slot configured to reciprocate substantially linearly and a cam surface adapted to receive said door pin, and a second slot adapted to receive said handle pin;
    - wherein said latch bar and handle have a first unlatched position where said handle pin enters said second slot and said door pin enters said first slot, and a second latched position where said handle pin contacts said second slot and said cam surface bears against said door pin,
    - and
    - wherein rotation of said handle from the first position to the second position causes said handle pin to bear against said second slot, moving said latch bar in a latching direction from the

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first position to the second position, so that said first slot on said cam surface bears against said door pin and urges the door in a closing direction.

12. (Amended) An apparatus for latching a door against a frame, comprising:  
a first engagement means extending from the door;  
a second engagement means mounted to the door frame and configured to move substantially linearly and cooperating with said first engagement means, said first and second engagement means movable between a first position where the door is unlatched and a second position where said engagement means latches the door closed; and  
actuating means for actuating the second engagement means to move between the first and second positions, the actuating means including a rotating handle having a handle pin extending therefrom that contacts a slot movable with the second engagement means to move the second engagement means from the first to the second position when the handle is rotated.

16. (Twice Amended) A method for latching a door against a frame, comprising the steps of:

inserting a door pin mounted to the door into a first slot completely defined by a latch bar mounted to the frame;  
inserting a handle pin mounted to a handle into a second slot on the latch bar; and  
rotating the handle in a first direction so that the door pin urges the latch bar in a first direction so that the first slot moves substantially linearly and cammingly contacts the door pin to urge the door into a latched position.